

HOW ARTILLERY

Is Fired by British Gunners—Two Shots Necessary

TO TEST THE GUN RANGE

Before the Target is Accurately Located—Superior Gunnery of British Offsets Longer Range of Boer Guns.

London News: I notice in many reports from the seat of war that it is mentioned that from the artillery the first shot fell short, the second went over, but that after that the firing seemed to be deadly. This may perhaps be read by many as meaning that the first two shots were bad shots, and that the process of getting the correct range was rather slow. The fact is just the opposite. The method by which of late years, taking example from the Germans, we have incalculably improved our artillery practice, depends on the firing of at least two shots—one over, one under. Indeed, as I shall explain, a gunner would on reading such reports be a little tempted to think that the battery commanders had been rather overanxious to think that they had obtained the range before they had really done so. A battery commander is exceptionally lucky if he gets the range by two trial shots. Those he does not fire with the deadly "time" fuse which makes his shell burst at the point he wishes in the air, but only with a "percussion fuse," as it is called—that is to say, with one that makes his shell burst only when it strikes the ground. As I am quite sure from reading the various reports that the deadly efficiency of our artillery in its practice as compared with the Boer artillery, despite their much longer range of weapons, has been due to the Boers being ignorant of our methods, it may interest many readers to understand them.

There is very little difficulty for artillery to lay their guns accurately in point of direction right and left. Our instruments are so fine that that can be easily accomplished. The difficulty is to prevent the guns from shooting too short or too long, as it will be observed that both the Boer artillery and the "machine guns," which are practically a number of infantry barrels placed together so as to deliver by mechanical means a vast volume of infantry fire, did at Modder Spruit. When a scrap shell burst in the air, or when a shell that does not burst is fired into the middle of a town, it is excessively difficult for the observer some thousands of yards away from the object to know whether it has been a good shot or a quite ineffective one. It has been calculated that the Boers, by an expenditure of little short of 3,000 shells on Ladysmith, many of the shells being large, heavy and costly, have succeeded in killing eight men. Obviously for war purposes artillery would be a very inefficient instrument if that represented its best work. Yet substantially when the great change took place which multiplied more than twenty-fold the effective range of the guns at Waterloo, that was the kind of practice which we were carrying on.

In those days we had no practice ground for artillery such as we have now at Okehampton and in other places. The Germans had practice grounds connected with every garrison town in the country. There they, having made a horrible mess of their artillery work during a war with Austria in 1866, set themselves to improve their practice. They gradually arrived at the following method. Though, when a shell bursts in the air you cannot tell whether it has been fired effectually or quite uselessly, you can get certain indications from a shell which bursts on the ground, such as enable you to know whether it has gone under or over the object at which you aim. Thus the shell raises a certain amount of dust and smoke, and if you see that the object is partly obscured by this you may be pretty sure that your shell has fallen short. If, on the contrary, you see the object standing out clear, and the dust behind it, you know that your shell has gone beyond the object.

Suppose, then, that I estimate the range at 3,200 yards. I want to be quite sure of seeing that I don't fire over the object, because if I do, not only will my

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Mother's Friend during the whole period of pregnancy. The earlier its use is begun, the more perfectly will the shape be preserved. **Mother's Friend** not only softens and relaxes the muscles during the great strain before birth, but helps the skin to contract naturally afterward. It keeps unightly wrinkles away, and the muscles underneath retain their pliability. **Mother's Friend** is that famous external liniment which banishes morning sickness and nervousness during pregnancy; shortens labor and makes it nearly painless; builds up the patient's constitutional strength, so that she emerges from the ordeal without danger. The little one, too, shows the effects of **Mother's Friend** by its robustness and vigor.

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shot be useless, but I shall have no means of correcting it. Therefore, at first I fire at 3,100, and if I find that my shot is short, I fire a second round, say 3,300, in order to go beyond the object. If I see that my shot does go over, I am satisfied that I have established what is called "a long bracket;" that is to say, I have found two ranges, 300 yards apart, between which the object must lie. It does not, however, follow that in lies exactly midway between them, and it is very probable, in fact almost certain, that it will be better to get two shots nearer together within which the target must still certainly lie. I therefore fire another shot to shorten the distance within which I can then know that the target must be. This we call on the same principle as the other, "a short bracket." I try then to fire a shot actually at the object, and if I seem to get very close to it, I am satisfied that I have "the range."

Even then, however, my work is only half done before I can fire with effect. Hitherto I have not tried at all to get the correct "setting" of the fuse which will make the shell burst in air at the right point. It was necessary, first to make sure of the range, but I want, in order that the bullets may scatter properly on the target, to make one or two experiments to insure that the fuse will burst the shell in front of the troops at which I aim and burst it neither too high nor too low, too near nor too far. It is only when I have made all these trial shots that I know that the battery is really ready to bring an effective fire on the enemy. Day after day, and almost all day long, our batteries at home have been going through the dreary drudgery that is necessary for the perfecting of the mechanism of this system. Year after year they have gone down to carry out the practice very perfectly at Okehampton, or very imperfectly at Shoeburyness, while the Irish batteries have their own practice grounds, and the batteries in the north theirs.

That is why, despite the fact that, as this campaign has shown, though it was well known before, they require a new gun, they have yet, gun for gun, defeated the Boers whenever the conditions admitted of their getting within range of them. That is why the Boers have not been able to make Ladysmith untenable; while, as Lord Methuen has declared, it was the fire of our artillery that made the capture of Modder position possible. From another point of view, it is interesting to note that the commander with his whole battery, in order to produce a decisive result, has, under the excitement of action and the bewildering effect of the enemy's fire, to carry out on the field of battle the trained habit of the practice ground. It is in this respect that our artillery has proved itself so superior to the Boers, despite the heavy nature of the guns they have dragged into the field.

SKIRMISHING

All Along the Line, and Americans Are Victorious in Every Engagement—Panay Rebels Surrendered. Lawton's Funeral on the 30th Instant.

MANILA, Dec. 26.—1:10 p. m.—Col. J. Franklin Bell, of the Thirty-sixth Infantry, encountered 150 Filipinos Thursday, near Alaminos, province of Zamboanga, and killed, wounded or captured twenty-eight of them. Our troops also obtained possession of a number of rifles and a quantity of ammunition. One American was wounded.

A detachment of the Thirty-fourth Infantry encountered a band of the enemy Saturday at Arifao, province of New Vizcaya, and routed them, killing two and wounding or capturing thirteen. The Americans also seized a quantity of ammunition.

The Twenty-first regiment attacked a Filipino outpost Sunday, near Calamba, scattering them and killing five of the enemy.

The Thirty-second regiment, Sunday, had a brush with the enemy from the mountains, northwest of Dinalupjan. One American was wounded. The troops captured 125 head of cattle and brought them to Granji, Batang province.

In the island of Panay, Captain Brownell's company of the Twenty-sixth Infantry, fought the enemy near Sala. The rebels lost heavily, and the Americans captured a number of rifles.

The rebels who fled from Panay to Romblon Island are surrendering to the American garrison from Panay.

The funeral of Major General Lawton will take place December 30. The remains will be embarked on the transport Thomas.

Ariosta Likely to Go to Pieces. NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 26.—Captain Balmer, of the British steamer Ariosta, which ran ashore four miles south of Cape Hatteras life-saving station yesterday morning, to-day reported to the agents there that his ship will prove a total loss.

The tug Rescue, which reached the Ariosta this morning, has been unable to do anything toward floating her because of the rough sea off the coast. A message received at the weather bureau here states that Rescue has not yet been able even to approach the Ariosta near enough to put a line aboard her. The steamer lies broadside on, and appears to be taking considerable water.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth.—Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gum, always cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle. **mwt**

NO FIGHTERS LIKE OURS.

Japanese Attache in Luzon Amazed at Their Valor—Thought Them Unsoldierly, But Changed His Mind When He Saw Them in Battle.

MANILA, Nov. 18.—A correspondent of the Manila Tribune, writing from Angeles, November 14, says the Philadelphia Record, gives the following interview with the Japanese military attache, who had been with the American advance:

"You Americans have a way of accomplishing your purpose, once begun. The dash, daring and general intelligence of the rank and file of the American army makes them exceptional soldiers. When I first saw them marching along through the rain I was greatly surprised at their unsoldierly appearance, and could not believe that they constituted a portion of the army of the United States.

"But now that I have seen them fight I have changed my opinions.

"There may be more freedom and less stringent discipline in the American army than in others, but in a fight and in enduring hardships cheerfully there is no army on the face of the earth to equal them.

"They are always pleasant, and chaff with one another, making the best of every privation under the most exasperating circumstances. I admire them from the bottom of my heart, and only wish we had 10,000 like them in the Japanese army.

"General Joseph Wheeler I believe to be one of the most capable generals in the Philippines.

"I believe the war is practically over, and that Aguinaldo's case is hopelessly lost. What can he hope for, with the American troops forming a cordon about his weary army? Escape seems impossible.

"To the mountains, inhabited by hostile savages, he cannot safely go. General Wheaton's soldiers and the American gunboats guard the Lingayen coast, and he will be very fortunate if he manages to escape from Luzon.

"Aguinaldo has certainly played a very pretty game, but finally he has been checkmated. The final movement of the Americans against the insurgents was a well-executed one. When it is thoroughly understood by the military experts of the world they will warmly applaud it.

"There is some talk of Aguinaldo attempting to reach Japan. I am not at liberty to express any opinion as to the reception he would receive there."

SECRET MARRIAGE

Leaked Out, and Now They Demand "Bless You, My Children."

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. CHARLESTON, W. Va., Dec. 26.—Miss Nellie Hobbs, of Hinton, in company with her betrothed, Mr. M. C. Barker, of the same place, came here yesterday, ostensibly to visit an uncle. Instead they obtained a marriage license, and were married at a hotel. They then separated, the bride going to her uncle's and the groom remaining at the hotel, their intention being to keep their marriage a secret until later. This morning a notice of the marriage appeared in a local paper. Their plans thus being spoiled, they returned together to Hinton to-day to seek the blessing of the old folks.

Tragic Windup of a Cakewalk.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—During a riot among forty-seven negroes, men and women, on a trolley car in Morrisania, early to-day, one man was fatally shot, and two were dangerously wounded. The injured men are Dudley Smith, twenty-two years old, shot in left groin, fatally; Edward Lambert, twenty-four years old, shot in the back and three knife wounds on thigh, and George Torrend, aged thirty-one, shot in the jaw. Charles Trassy, twenty-four years old, who did the shooting, was arrested.

There was a cake-walk last night, which was attended by a large crowd of colored people. Forty-seven of the participants and spectators, about 1 o'clock this morning, boarded a south bound trolley car for Harlem bridge. There were no white people on board except the conductor and the motor-man. Among the negroes was Lizzie Stewart, of Mount Vernon. She had been Trassy's partner in the cake-walk. Almost immediately after boarding the car the negroes commenced to fight. The row was started, it is said, by some of the colored men making disparaging remarks about the Stewart woman. Trassy was identified by Torrend, one of the wounded men. He claimed to have shot in self defense. Most of the negroes involved in the row escaped.

HIGHEST PRAISE.

Some Wheeling Citizens Grow Enthusiastic on the Subject.

The praise of the public. Is man's just reward. Nothing in modern times. Has received the praise accorded "The Little Conqueror."

Of some kinds of praise we are skeptical. We doubt the praise of strangers. The highest praise for the Wheeling people.

Is hearty expression from Wheeling people. Doan's Kidney Pills are endorsed in Wheeling.

No better proof of merit can be had. Here's a case of it. We have plenty more like it.

Mrs. George W. Thompson, of No. 415 Market street, says: "I had constant dull, aching pain across the small of my back, and heavy, bearing down pain in the bladder. I could not rest at nights on account of my back, and lay for hours in a vain effort to get to sleep, rising in the mornings tired and languid, more so than when I went to bed. When I saw Doan's Kidney Pills advertised my back and kidneys were very bad. I went to the Logan Drug Company, and got a box and took them. A few doses did me good, and when I had completed the box I was cured."

Doan's Kidney Pills for sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Mailed by Foster-McMillan Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no substitute.

Hanna Fully Identified.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—H. J. Hanna, who was arrested Sunday on a telegraphic request from the police superintendent of Pittsburgh, Pa., stating that he was wanted on a charge of murdering John Craig, his gambling partner at Greensburg, Pa., May 23 last, still denies his identity, but he was fully recognized to-day by G. C. Judy, who knew him in the east.

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The busiest and mightiest little thing that ever was made is Dr. King's New Life Pills. Every pill is a sugar-coated globe of health, that changes weakness into strength, listlessness into energy, brain-fag into mental power. They're wonderful in building up the health. Only 25 cents per box. Sold by Logan Drug Co. **3**

THE ENTANGLED GREYHOUND.

Fate of a Remarkable Dog That Tried to Go Three Ways at Once.

New York Sun: "The most mixed-up dog I ever saw," said Mr. Goslington, "was one I met yesterday on the block in which I live. This dog was a greyhound. Standing still, the greyhound seems very tall and very long; running, he stretches out amazingly; the greyhound at play becomes one of the most extraordinary objects the eye ever saw.

"The greyhound I saw was playing with another dog; a smaller dog. It was a bright, frosty day, and the dogs skipped about in the most lively fashion. The smaller dog was a swift runner, and he would start off with the greyhound following. It was wonderful to see the greyhound run; but far more wonderful to see him turn while running, which he sometimes did. The smaller dog would now and then turn at a sharp angle and run in the other direction. The greyhound never failed to follow, and when he turned he presented a wonderful sight, indeed, being bent like a long-armed letter V laid horizontally; his long front legs and his head and the forward part of his body going one way, while the rear part, with the hind legs, was still going in the other direction, up to the angle or elbow where he was turning; something astonishing to see. But this greyhound, presently did something more remarkable still; he tried to go in three directions at once, thus forming himself in a sort of figure 4. It was in this effort that he came to grief; but all came about in the simplest way in the world.

"The smaller dog had doubled once, and then almost instantly changed his course again, crossing his first course, thus forming a triangle; and the greyhound tried to follow. He made the first turn all right, and then, before the rest of his body, and his hind legs had got up to and around the bend, he changed course again and tried, with his forelegs and head, to pass under them.

"Even now I can't tell exactly how it happened, because it was all done so suddenly; but the first thing I knew the greyhound lay there on the ground in a kind of bunch, with legs and tails and heads and necks sticking out all over him. He was all mixed up in trying to pass under himself in this way while going at full speed; his long, flying legs had got, in some way, most curiously interlocked, and, what with the bendings and turns of his slender head and long neck and body and tail he looked as though he was tied up in about fourteen double bow knots, with ends sticking out everywhere.

"The smaller dog, when he realized that he wasn't being followed, came back and stood beside the greyhound, and wagged his tail in sympathy; and I went over to see if I could untangle him. As I came up near him, the greyhound lifted his slender head and looked at me with a queer sort of a look, as much as to say:

"I did make a fool jump that time, didn't I?"

"And I said to him, out loud: 'Well, you certainly did manage to tie yourself up pretty well, anyway.'

"And then I set about untangling him; I pulled out one leg, and then another, and so on, and soon had him all right again; and he stood it all with perfect docility, glad enough to have my help. When I had got him all straightened out he got up himself; and he was all right. He turned his head around to me and looked his thanks; and then he turned and trotted slowly away, with head and tail rather down. But a moment later, the skippy little dog had ranged himself alongside of him and made one or two jumps at him, and then turned and ran; and the next instant the lean greyhound was after him again, humping and extending himself with movements faster than the eye could fully follow, going like a skeleton stepladder, worked by machinery. So soon, like men, do dogs forget."

THE FIRST FOLDING BED.

It Was Patented by a Western Man and Was Unlike Beds of To-day.

"No invention of modern times so filled the proverbial long-felt want as did the folding bed." These are the words of Robert C. Gill, head of the model rooms in the patent office in Washington.

The particular model to which he referred was a crude form of a collapsible bedstead. But that rude bed cut in sections and hinged so that it might fold into compact form, contained the germ of an idea, and to that is owed the useful cabinet folding bed of to-day.

This inventor of the folding bed was one James A. Johnston, a western man, to whom patent No. 17,281 was granted on May 12, 1857. No provision was made in the bed for the storing of the mattress, pillows and bed clothes, as is common in the folding bed of to-day. Also, unlike the modern contrivance which when folded resembles a bureau, chiffonier or other similar piece of furniture, the folding bed patented by Johnston made no pretense of looking like anything other than just what it was.

A company manufactured the Johnston patent and it had quite a vogue in its day. Little by little improvements were made on the bed, and within the past score of years the piece of furniture known to-day was evolved, and there are several hundreds of varieties patented.

Bubonic Plague.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Dec. 26.—It is reported here that the bubonic plague has made its appearance at Noumea, capital of the French penal colony of New Caledonia. Ten Kanakas have succumbed to the disease, and four whites have been attacked. The plague is said to be spreading.

No Right to Ugliness.

The woman who is lovely in face, figure and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all run down she will be nervous and irritable. If she has constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric Bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rich complexion. It will make a good-looking, charming woman of a run-down invalid. Only 50 cents at Logan Drug Co's Drug Store **2**

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